

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-27, 29-31 and 33-48 were pending and presented for examination. In an Office Action dated December 31, 2007 all pending claims were rejected. Applicants are amending claims 1-2, 6, 27, 36, 38, 41-44 and 46 in this response. In view of the Amendments herein and the Remarks that follow, Applicants respectfully request that Examiner reconsider all outstanding rejections and withdraw them.

Response to Rejection Under 35 USC 103(a) in View of Blanco and Lowitz

Examiner rejects claims 1, 3, 5-27 and 36-48 under 35 USC § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0064935 to Blanco (“Blanco”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,485,554 to Lowitz, et al. (“Lowitz”). Claims 2, 29-31 and 33-35 are further rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable in view of Blanco, Lowitz, and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0249650 (“Freedman”). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1, 3, 5-27 and 36-48

Representative claim 27 recites:

A method for printing media content, the method comprising:
displaying a print dialog driver box to a user;
receiving instructions from the user in the print dialog driver box, the instructions for controlling segmentation of the media content and generation of a printable representation of the media content;
analyzing features of the media content to extract a segment of the media content based at least in part on the instructions received from the user in the print dialog driver box;
generating the printable representation of the media content based at least in part on the extracted segment of the media content and the instructions received from the user in the print dialog driver box; and
printing the printable representation of the media content to a tangible medium.

Claim 1 recites a system having similar elements. The claimed invention displays a print dialog driver box to a user (see, for example, FIGs. 7-19 for embodiments of print dialog driver boxes). Instructions are received from a user in the print dialog driver box for controlling segmentation of media content and generation of a printable representation of media content. Features of the media content are analyzed to extract a segment of the media content. A printable representation of the media content is generated based on the extracted segment and the user instructions and the printable representation is printed (see, for example, FIG. 20 for an embodiment of a printable representation of media content).

The claimed invention would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention in view of Blanco and Lowitz because the references fail to disclose or suggest each limitation of the claims. For example, the cited references do not disclose or suggest:

“...analyzing features of the media content to extract a segment of the media content based at least in part on the instructions received from the user in the print dialog driver box...”

and

“...generating the printable representation of the media content based at least in part on the extracted segment of the media content and the instructions received from the user in the print dialog driver box...”

Blanco discloses a method for creating and playing user-defined soundtracks in a video gaming system. A user can copy tracks from an audio source (e.g., a CD, DVD, online source, etc.) and store the tracks to a hard disk of the gaming system. Soundtracks can be played back using the gaming system as a game executes in place of the game’s default soundtrack. (Blanco, paragraph [0007]).

Blanco is unrelated to printing media content. Blanco does not disclose, for example, displaying a print dialog box, analyzing features of media content to extract a segment of the

media content based on user instructions received in the print dialog driver box, generating a printable representation of media content, or printing media content.

The Examiner indicates that Blanco discloses analyzing features of the media content based on instructions received from the user at paragraph [0053] of Blanco. In the cited section, Blanco discloses that a user can view contents of a memory area 416 and adjust settings of a settings area 418. “The settings area allows users to preview current set options, as well as adjust the setting as desired.” (Blanco, [0053]). Nowhere does Blanco recite analyzing features of the media content to extract a segment of the media content, as claimed. Rather, Blanco would not need to perform any such feature analysis to extract a segment of the media data because Blanco is only directed to creating or playing user-defined soundtracks and not to segmenting media content for printing. As claimed in dependent claims 29-31 and 33-35, analyzing features of the media content could include, for example, performing speech recognition, character recognition, face recognition, speaker detection, face detection, or event detection.

Lowitz discloses a video printing apparatus that uses function keys 238, 240 to print single frames or a sequence of frames from an input video (Lowitz, col. 5 line 60 to col. 6 line 8). Like Blanco, Lowitz does not analyze features of the media content to extract a segment of the media content based on instructions received from a user. Furthermore, Lowitz does not disclose generating a printable representation of the media content based on the extracted segment. Instead, Lowitz directly prints selected frames in their entirety.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1 and 27 are patentably distinguishable over the cited reference. Dependent claims 3, 5-27,

and 36-48 incorporate all the limitations of their respective base claims and are patentable over Blanco and Lowitz for at least the same reasons as above.

Claims 2, 29-31 and 33-35

In the rejection to claims 2, 29-31 and 33-35, Freedman fails to remedy the deficiencies of Blanco and Lowitz discussed above. Freedman generally discloses a system for analyzing customer interactions with various units within a business environment (Freedman, [0013]-[0014]). Like Blanco and Lowitz, Freedman fails to provide any disclosure or suggestion of analyzing features of media content to extract a segment of the media content based on instructions received from a user or generating a printable representation of media content based at least in part on the analyzed features and the instructions received from the user. Therefore, claims 2, 29-31, and 33-35 are also patentable over the cited references.

Conclusion

In sum, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims, as presented herein, are patentably distinguishable over the cited references. Therefore, Applicants request reconsideration of the basis for the rejections to these claims and request allowance of them. In addition, Applicants respectfully invite Examiner to contact Applicants' representative at the number provided below if Examiner believes it will help expedite furtherance of this application.

Respectfully Submitted,
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